

FOUNDED 1716  
*North Haven*  
*Congregational Church*  
United Church of Christ

*They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
which yield their fruit in its season.* Psalm 1: 3a

Rooted in

Love



North Haven, Connecticut  
*An Open & Affirming Congregation*

**NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Sunday, October 10, 2021**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 23**

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** *Adagio*

G. F. Handel

**CHORAL INTROIT:** *Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying*

Words & Music by  
Ken Medema (b. 1943)

**\*OPENING HYMN:** "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing"

**V559**

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: We will wait for God's salvation.

**PEOPLE:** God will swallow up death forever and wipe our tears away.

Leader: God will take our reproach and make a feast for all peoples.

**ALL:** Let us act with compassion to dry the tears of others.

Let us walk with justice to silence reproach.

Let us make a festival with all God's children.\*\*

**\*LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE ~unison**

O Lord,

You love justice and You establish peace on earth. We bring before You the disunity of today's world; the absurd violence, and the many wars, which are breaking the courage of the peoples of the world; human greed and injustice, which breed hatred and strife. Send Your spirit and renew the face of the earth; teach us to be compassionate towards the whole human family; strengthen the will of all those who fight for justice and for peace, and give us that peace which the world cannot give. Amen.

- Rev. Bridget Fidler, worship leader at NHCC 6/7/15

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION:~unison**

Holy Spirit of God, who gathers the church into one body gather us once again in your presence and strengthen the bonds of affection that hold your people together. Bless us with grace to cooperate with one another in love and service that we may be the signs of your uniting love to our fractured world. Teach us to show compassion for those in need, to face challenges with imagination, and to counter disappointment with prayerful trust. So may your church bring forth your will and your reign.\*\* Amen.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*trespasses*)

Organ Amen

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?  
O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;  
and by night, but find no rest.

Yet you are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

In you our ancestors trusted;  
they trusted, and you delivered them.

To you they cried, and were saved;  
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

But I am a worm, and not human;  
scorned by others, and despised by the people.

All who see me mock at me;  
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;  
“Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver—  
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”

Yet it was you who took me from the womb;  
you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.

On you I was cast from my birth,  
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

Do not be far from me,  
for trouble is near  
and there is no one to help.

Many bulls encircle me,  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;  
they open wide their mouths at me,  
like a ravening and roaring lion.

I am poured out like water,  
and all my bones are out of joint;  
my heart is like wax;  
it is melted within my breast;  
my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;  
you lay me in the dust of death.

**HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.**

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

HERE ENDS THE READING. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

**GIFT OF MUSIC:** *Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring*

Johann Sebastian Bach

Edited by H. Clough-Leiter

Recorded live in the sanctuary on September 16, 2021

**SERMON:** “Between Alone-liness and Joy”

Scott Morrow

**PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Organ Response

**THE OFFERTORY**

\*Doxology

Tune: Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*Prayer of Dedication

## **GREETING OF PEACE ~unison**

*May the peace of God in Jesus Christ be with you always!*

**\*CLOSING HYMN:** “O Jesus, I Have Promised”

**V120**

## **\*THE BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:** *Fughetta in G Minor*

G. A. Sorge

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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**The flowers** are given in loving memory of Lillian Lavanway, who passed 22 years ago on Oct 8. Lillian was the mother of Melissa DeLuca and Michele Lynch, given by the DeLuca and Lynch families.

**In Our Prayers This Week are:** Heather Rowe-Purcell, Linda Shannon, Betsy Gumbart, and the family of David Bellonio.

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY:**

Jeff Whipple 10/11, Barbara Marks 10/16, Marissa Volpe 10/16, Gary Czajkowski 10/16, Kerry Stewart 10/17.

## **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:**

Ray & Cynthia Geissler 10/14, Deborah & Stefan McKosky 10/15.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month Women’s Fellowship will host “Pink Sunday” on October 17th! We are asking EVERYONE (men included) to wear pink on that day, in person at church or at home attending the service virtually. There will be baked goods available for purchase after the service. All funds raised will be donated to “After the Storm.” There will not be an Art Bra Runway Show this year because of Covid. Please consider supporting “After the Storm” by purchasing some baked goods or by sending your donation to the church, checks payable to Women’s Fellowship. Your donation is greatly appreciated! Save the date for next year: August 4, 2022, when “Art Bra “ returns to Aqua Turf in Southington! Honor those survivors you know and love, WEAR YOUR PINK!

**TIDEPOOL**, the 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade multi-church youth group, will have a game night at Spring Glen Church 4-6pm. Bring a friend with you!

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS\***

|                  |              |  |   |
|------------------|--------------|--|---|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>10/10</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br>9:30<br>4:00 p.m.                  | <b>WORSHIP (In Person &amp; Live Stream)</b><br>CHURCH SCHOOL (In Person)<br>Tidepool (Spring Glen Church)                                  |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>10/11</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b>                                       | <b>Music Together (Lawn)</b>  |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>10/12</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br>12:00 p.m.<br>4:30<br>6:00<br>7:30 | <b>Music Together (Lawn)</b><br>BUILDING & GROUNDS (Library)<br>Music Together (Lawn)<br>BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)<br>Nutmeg Treasure Hunters (CH) |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>10/13</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br>10:00<br>1:30 p.m.<br>7:00         | <b>Music Together (Lawn/CH)</b><br>FOOD PANTRY OPEN<br>STAFF MEETING (Zoom)<br>MLB (CH)   |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>10/14</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br>11:00<br>5:00 p.m.<br>7:00<br>7:00 | <b>Music Together (Lawn)</b><br>ENDOWMENT (In-Person & Zoom)<br>Girl Scouts (Lawn/DBL)<br>Garden Club (CH)<br>CHANCEL CHOIR (Zoom)          |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>10/15</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br>10:00                              | <b>Music Together (Lawn)</b><br>FOOD PANTRY OPEN  |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>10/16</b> | <b>8:00 a.m.</b><br>9:30<br>10:30                      | <b>MENS FELLOWSHIP (Zoom)</b><br>Music Together (Lawn)<br>Music Together (Lawn)   |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>10/17</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br>9:30<br>4:00 p.m.                  | <b>WORSHIP (In Person &amp; Live Stream)</b><br>CHURCH SCHOOL (In Person)<br>OASIS & Tidepool (Spring Glen Church)                          |

\*Small print indicates non-Church function

**Bold print starts new day.**





They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season.

Psalms 1:3a

## Rooted in Love

### In Awe of Grace

by Rev. Dr. Jennifer Yocum

When I joined the UCC back in 2003, I had every reason not to pledge. I was in deep debt from graduate school. I was primarily self-employed and had dramatically uneven income. Some months, I couldn't even make my part of the mortgage payment. Even deeper though, I'd been deeply hurt by churches in the past, thrown out by one and blown out by another. (Both stories best shared over a beer.) For ten years, I'd been spiritually homeless and I wasn't too sure of the ragtag little church I'd joined, made up of misfits and refugees just like me.

But I was downright ensorcelled by this promise, "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here." If there was even a chance that this might turn out to be true, I knew I had "put down roots" to make it happen. Even if it was a measly \$5 a month/5 hours a month, I knew I needed to make a bet on my faithfulness to the dream of a church that would take me in.

In the 18 years since then, I've challenged myself to increase my pledge every year. Not because of the terrific programming my church does, or because of mission giving, or because of a sense of duty, I give because I'm still in awe of the grace extended by that "No matter who you are..." promise. I hope you'll join me in growing that promise in your churches.

#### CONSIDER YOUR PLEDGE AS A PERCENT OF YOUR MONTHLY INCOME.

| Annual Income | Monthly Income | 2%  | 3%  | 4%  | 5%  | 10%  |
|---------------|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 16,000        | 1,333          | 27  | 40  | 53  | 67  | 133  |
| 20,000        | 1,667          | 33  | 50  | 67  | 83  | 167  |
| 25,000        | 2,083          | 42  | 62  | 83  | 104 | 208  |
| 30,000        | 2,500          | 50  | 75  | 100 | 125 | 250  |
| 35,000        | 2,917          | 58  | 88  | 117 | 146 | 292  |
| 40,000        | 3,333          | 67  | 100 | 133 | 167 | 333  |
| 45,000        | 3,750          | 75  | 113 | 150 | 188 | 375  |
| 50,000        | 4,167          | 83  | 125 | 167 | 208 | 417  |
| 60,000        | 5,000          | 100 | 150 | 200 | 250 | 500  |
| 75,000        | 6,250          | 125 | 188 | 250 | 313 | 625  |
| 100,000       | 8,333          | 167 | 250 | 333 | 417 | 833  |
| 125,000       | 10,417         | 208 | 313 | 417 | 521 | 1042 |

On average, Americans give 2% of their income to charity. Giving even 1% more of annual income to charity would be transformative for our congregation and other organizations doing good in our community.

D A D G D A7 D

1 Come, O Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to sing your grace;  
 2 Here I pause in my so - journ - ing, giv - ing thanks for hav - ing come,  
 3 O, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I am drawn a - new!

D A D G D A7 D

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing call for songs of end - less praise.  
 come to trust, at ev - ery turn - ing, God will guide me safe - ly home.  
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to you.

D G D G D G D G D F#m G A7 D

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove.  
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - dering from the fold of God,  
 Prone to wan - der, I can feel it, wan - der from the love I've known:

D A D G D A7 D

Praise the mount, I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - fail - ing love.  
 came to res - cue me from dan - ger, pre - cious pres - ence, pre - cious blood.  
 here's my heart, O, take and seal it, seal it for your ver - y own.



F (Fdim F) C Dm Gm C

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;  
 2 O let me feel you near me: the world is ev - er near;  
 3 O let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,  
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you,

F G7 C (F C) G7 C

re - main for ev - er near me, my Sav - iour and my friend:  
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear;  
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will;  
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.

C7 F (D7) Gm (D7 Gm)

I shall not fear the jour - ney if you are by my side,  
 my foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;  
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to hast - en or con - trol;  
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end,

Unison Bb C Harmony F Bb F C7 F

nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.  
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er and shield my soul from sin.  
 now speak, and make me lis - ten, O guard - ian of my soul.  
 O give me grace to fol - low, my Sav - iour and my friend.

## Church Office Staff:

All the Members, Ministers to the World  
The Reverend Scott G. Morrow, Senior Pastor  
Karlee Etter, Ministry Coordinator for Children  
Jeffrey Hutchins, Director of Music  
Gary Snowbeck, Organist  
Julie Schweickert, Office Manager  
Todd Swarney, Sexton  
Telephone: 203-239-5691  
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### **MISSION**

Our church's mission is to bind ourselves with Jesus Christ in:

- Worship together;
- Nurture of Christian discipleship; and
- Compassionate service to our community and beyond.

### **VISION**

We are a hub for the larger community as a church of action:

- Conducting regular, robust worship in a responsible and relevant way in an ever changing and challenging world;
- Welcoming all people from different and diverse backgrounds to become a community of disciples together; and
- Involved in purposeful action and activities through the structure of self-directed Mission Teams.

### **VALUES**

We:

- Pray together, encourage each other, and trust one another;
- Take personal responsibility for fellowship and our community; and
- Celebrate with honored traditions.